

State of the Society

By Paul Daspit
Executive Director, AFCDJS

Another successful Festival and set of annual Society Programs for 2012 are "in the books." Many thanks go out to all who helped, board members, patrons, sponsors, event volunteers and project volunteers alike.

Events for 2013 are well underway starting with the just-completed Adult Jazz Camp, monthly concerts and jazz workshops, and active planning for the 34th Annual Festival in November.

Additional help is always needed to "Keep the Music Alive." It seems each year or so we hear of a Society or Festival somewhere in the country having to closing its doors, sometimes due to financial stress, but sometimes because too few volunteers are available to help. Even if you can spend only a few hours each week or each month and would like to play a part, please contact me or any board/staff member.

The 2012 Festival operated at "break-even" again this year. In this business that's about what can be expected. Many of our expenses have been increasing over the past few years, so for 2013 our Festival prices will need to go up a few dollars to keep pace.

Don't hesitate to drop me a note if you have any suggestions or comments. Contact me at 619-297-5277 or jazzinfo@dixielandjazzfestival.org.

The AFCDJS Monthly Concert Series

*Third Sunday of the Month
except Nov. and Dec.*

Feb. 17 – South Bay Jazz Ramblers
March 17 – Royale Garden Dixieland
April 21 – Revelation Jazz Band

~~~~~

The Mississippi Room at the  
Lafayette Hotel & Suites

2223 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego, CA

Take I-805, exit El Cajon Blvd West. The Lafayette Hotel is 2 blocks West of Texas Street. The Mississippi Room is located downstairs, in the northwest corner of the building. Enter from the El Cajon Blvd. entrance door.

All concerts are from 1-4pm.  
**Food and Bar Service Available.**

# JAZZ RAMBLER

Published by America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society • San Diego, CA • www.SDjazzfest.org

\$5.00 Per Issue

Winter (February) 2013

Vol. XXXI No. 1

## 34th Annual Festival Features Trad Bands, Returning Favorites

Patrons of the San Diego Jazz Fest have told AFCDJS in no uncertain terms that in the future, they want more **Trad Jazz** in the programming. We heard you loud and clear! Just take a look at the lineup for our 34th Annual Festival:

- **High Sierra Jazz Band** - one of the top Traditional bands on anyone's list!

- **Bob Schulz and his Frisco Jazz Band** - returning to the Festival after an absence of several years.

- **Buck Creek (Reunion) JB** - still going strong; the Buck Creek musicians just could not resist the urge to keep playing Trad Jazz!

- **Yerba Buena Stompers** - Lu Watters' music is in good hands with this band; a unanimous favorite.

- **Grand Dominion Jazz Band** - New Orleans music with a British accent; one of the most popular groups to ever play at our Festival.

- **Titanic Jazz Band** - Southern California's outstanding representatives of San Francisco Style Jazz.

- **Original Wildcat Jazz Band** - From Tucson; high-energy perfor-



Clarinetist Bob Draga

mances of Traditional Jazz classics.

- **Euphoria Brass Band** - San Diego's interpreters of Traditional New Orleans Brass Band music.

- **Night Blooming Jazzmen** - 2013 will mark its 33rd appearance at the Festival, playing unique Traditional style.

- **Mission Bay High Preservationists** - First-rate student musicians; inspired by the music they heard on a pilgrimage to New Orleans!

In 2013, we welcome three World-Class guest artists to the Festival:

- Clarinetist **Bob Draga**.

- Vocalist **Brady McKay**.

- Pianist **Jason Wanner**.

The Festival will also present four newcomers:

- **Ray Skjelbred and his Cubs** - a quintet that specializes in authentic Chicago Jazz of the '20s, '30s and '40s.

- **Paolo Alderighi** - piano virtuoso from Italy.

- **Glenn Crytzer and his Syncopators** - Hot Swing from Seattle.

- **Stompy Jones** - Jumpin' Jive from the Bay Area. (Note: Glenn Crytzer and Stompy Jones will participate in a special



Vocalist Brady McKay

continued on page 8

# JAZZ RAMBLER

WINTER (FEB.) 2013 VOL. XXXI - NO. 1

The JAZZ RAMBLER is published quarterly for \$15 per year (\$20 foreign) by America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society. Address all correspondence to P.O. Box 880387, San Diego, CA 92168-0387.

America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society is a Non-Profit 501 (c)3 organization.

For information about the Society, call (619) 297-5277.

Website: [www.SDjazzfest.org](http://www.SDjazzfest.org)

Fax number (619) 297-5281. Single copy price \$5.00. Editorial contributions welcome. Contents of *Jazz Rambler* are copyrighted © (2013) by America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society and may not be reprinted without permission. Jazz Publications and Jazz Club Newsletters may reprint articles provided the following credit is included: "Reprinted from the *Jazz Rambler*, San Diego, California." The *Jazz Rambler* and Society functions are funded in part by the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bill Adams, **President**

Myrna Goodwin, **Secretary**

Jane Brown, Alice Contreras, Everett Crouse, Curtis McKeel, Ruthe Monteith, Jim McNaughton, Lisa Richardson, Carey Jo Thozza.

## AFCDJS STAFF

Paul Daspit, **Executive Director**

Hal Smith, **Artistic Director**

Gretchen Haugen, **Treasurer**

## RAMBLER STAFF

Editor: Jay F. Levine

Staff Writers: Paul Daspit • Myrna Goodwin

Hal Smith • Jim McNaughton

Staff Photographer: Jerry Jones

## Advertise in the *Rambler*

Advertising in the *Jazz Rambler* is one of the best ways to reach a large exclusive audience of Trad Jazz fans. With our circulation of approximately 2,000 and an estimated readership of 3,500, you will be reaching thousands of people who are interested in all aspects of Traditional Jazz.

The *Rambler* is published quarterly. Deadlines are the 5th of the month, prior to the date of issue. Feb. 1, May 1, Aug. 1 and Nov. 1.

### Advertising Rates

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| Full page        | — \$275.00 |
| One Half page    | — 150.00   |
| One Third page   | — 110.00   |
| One Quarter page | — 85.00    |
| One Eighth page  | — 50.00    |

For a rate sheet, write AFCDJS, P.O. Box 880387, San Diego, CA 92168-0387 or call (619) 297-5277.

### AFCDJS is a member of:

- International Association of Classic Jazz Festivals
- San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce
- San Diego Convention & Visitors Bureau

# *Jazz Alive* — Here, There, Everywhere

(To have events included in the *Jazz Rambler* or on the AFCDJS website, submit updates by the 28th of each month to Myrna Goodwin at [goodwinhawkins@cox.net](mailto:goodwinhawkins@cox.net).)

## DIXIE EXPRESS

**Fuddruckers**, Wednesdays, 6-8pm, 5500 Grossmont Center Dr., La Mesa.

**Welk Resorts**, 8830 Lawrence Welk Rd. Escondido, "Festival Under the Lights Theater Patio," Tuesdays 5:30-8pm

Dance floor, food & beverages available No Cover, Confirm dates & time.

<http://www.dixieexpressjbsandiego.com>  
[jandacontreras@cox.net](mailto:jandacontreras@cox.net) or (619) 561-8236

## SAN DIEGO BANJO BAND

**McDonald's** at El Cajon Blvd. & 54th St. every Tuesday from 5:30-7:30pm

## UPTOWN RHYTHM MAKERS

First Friday of each month, 8-11pm, **Claire de Lune**, 2906 University Ave. San Diego. [www.facebook.com/URMjazz](http://www.facebook.com/URMjazz)

## SOUTH BAY JAZZ RAMBLERS

First Monday of each month, 6-8pm, **Grossmont Fuddruckers**, 5500 Grossmont Center Dr., La Mesa

## BAYSIDE DIXIE STOMPERS

Tuesdays, 6-8pm, **Fuddruckers**, 8285 Mira Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA

## REY VINOLE'S DIXIELAND WORKSHOP

Tuesdays, 7-9 pm, **The Orchard**, 4040 Hancock, San Diego (858) 581-9293.

## PARAGON JAZZ BAND

**Paradise Village**, 2700 East 4th National City; Feb. 15. March 15, April 19, 3-5pm

**College Avenue Senior Center**, Fri. March 8, 1-2pm

**Coronado Ferry Landing**, Sun., Feb. 24, 1-3pm

**St. Paul's Villa**, Thurs. (except 2nd Thurs.) 6:30-8pm, 2340 4th Ave., San Diego

## RED PEPPER JAZZ BAND

Check our website for upcoming gigs, [www.redpepperjazz.com](http://www.redpepperjazz.com)

## THE SAINTS

**St. Paul's Villa Senior Facility**, 2340 4th Ave., San Diego. Friday, 2-3:30 pm, (619) 384-7574. Musicians, dancers, listeners invited.

## HIGH SOCIETY JAZZ BAND

Check the website "schedule" for upcoming gigs. [www.highsocietyjazzband.com](http://www.highsocietyjazzband.com), More info, Larry (858) 277-5294

## LAKESIDE JAZZ CLUB

1st Sundays (951-245-9504), **Lake Elsinore Elks Club**, 33700 Mission Trail,

Wildomar, CA, 1:30-4:30 pm (Featured band at 3pm)

Feb. 3—**Aces High**

March 3—**Revelation Jazz Band**

April 7—**Paragon Jazz Band**

May 5—**Coyote Hills Jazz Band**

## JAZZ ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SAN DIEGO

Concert Schedule [www.jazz4u.org](http://www.jazz4u.org) or 760-753-0456 or 858-459-2559.

## RAMONA SENIOR CENTER

Fridays, **George Newman, Dixieland and "oldies" piano**, 11:30am-1pm. Musicians welcome, 434 Aqua Lane, Ramona, (619) 876-4300 X146

## RAMONA TERRACE ESTATES

**Dixieland to Rock & Roll**, Fridays, 3-5pm, musicians welcome, (760) 315-2912, 1212 "H" St. #152, Ramona

## GOLDEN EAGLES

Sundays, 1-4 pm, **Steamer's Restaurant**, 138 W. Commonwealth Ave. in Fullerton. Call for info at (626) 799-1761

## CJ SAMS and KATIE CAVERA

Wednesdays, **Curley's Café**, 1999 E. Willow (at Cherry), Signal Hill, CA. Free. Best to confirm dates and times. Info: [www.katiecavera.net](http://www.katiecavera.net).

## ROYALE GARDEN DIXIE BAND

1st & 3rd Mon., 7pm, **El Patio Restaurant**, 1750 W. La Palma Ave., Anaheim. More info - 951-898-2174

## AUNTIE SKINNER'S LUCKY WINNERS JAZZ BAND

1st & 3rd Monday, **El Patio Restaurant**, 1750 W. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, 7-9pm

## S. FERNANDO VALLEY BANJO

1st Thursday, 7-8:30pm, (818) 882-1877, **Lamplighter Family Restaurant**, 9110 De Soto Ave., Chatsworth. Reservations suggested.

## CROWN CITY DIXIELAND BAND

Wednesdays from 6:30-9pm, **Burger Continental Restaurant**, Pasadena (626) 792-6634

## BALDY MOUNTAIN SWING

1st and 3rd Thursdays, 8-10:30pm, at **The Press**, 129 Harvard Ave., Claremont Info: (909) 625-4808

## SOUTHSIDE CHICAGO SEVEN

Mondays, 7-10 pm, at **Le Carousse Rouge**, White Lane, Bakersfield. Info: (909) 625-4808

## SEAL BEACH, CA

Tuesdays, 6-9pm, **Leisure World Dixieland Workshop**, 13550 Seal Beach Blvd., Club House 3, rm. 8, (562) 594-5722  
*continued on page 4*

# Festival #33 — What New Fans Have to Say . . .

- Very special. A rare opportunity to hear amazing musicians. Two large dance floors in many rooms... Bring your dancing shoes and your friends!
- Our second time and we'll go again! Non-stop music. Be sure to spend time with the piano soloists; they are amazing! "Tickling the ivory" doesn't begin to describe it. More like fingers of neutrino!
- What a FANTASTIC event! The music was incredible and the dancing was fun. If you are looking for a great night, I would say, DON'T MISS THIS!
- Lots of choices of bands. Several play more than one time, so if you have a conflict between several you want to hear you can catch them at different times. The quality of bands is very good. Nice to have food and outside vendors available as well.
- It's exhilarating, fun and finger-snapping good!! We don't dance, but sure enjoyed watching others – young and old. We'll go again next year!!
- We loved it all! This year had great younger jazz musicians! Keep it up!! All the music and dancing was fun! It is like going to a concert every set; personal (the bands connected with the audience), informational (on the history behind the music) and performed professionally!!! LOVE IT!
- New Orleans Bourbon Street music came to us! Here in San Diego! Great talent, variety, etc. Loved every minute. We stayed 10 hours on Friday. We look forward to next year's Jazz

Festival. More and younger performers and audience members attend every year (i.e. Red Skunk Band and Stephanie Trick...both outstanding!!).

- Dave Bennett gives 200% during every set he does.
- I really had a good time the 2 days I attended the Jazz Fest. I listened to new bands and enjoyed them. Listening to old favorite bands was good, too.
- The new electronic sign is neat.
- Great variety of jazz; and loved the Ragtime! The Red Skunk was my favorite of those I saw/heard.
- We attended primarily to hear Lorraine Feather and Stephanie Trick perform together (and they were beyond wonderful), but the other performers there were all spectacular, each in their own way.
- Great people— Great music it couldn't have been better
- It was fun way to spend a Sunday afternoon. I was amazed at the professionalism of the bands. The people around us were having fun and dancing for joy. Thank you.
- We had a great time and will certainly look forward to the 2013 event next year.
- Diverse musical styles and easy access to performances in the venue - very low key and fun and excellent performances - a nice day.
- This was our 1st time at the Festival. But it will not be our last. We had dinner there and the food was great, too.
- Loved CJ and Katie.
- We come from Scotland for your festival, and we will be back.
- The SD festival ranks very high in our estimation. We love the setting, the great facilities, and the variety of music. Especially the Trad.

## PASSINGS

**George Harbaugh**  
(1932-2012)

George Harbaugh, a life-long businessman and native of San Diego, graduated from San Diego State University and was a pilot with the Strategic Air Command before marrying his wife, Betty York, in 1956. George and Betty loved San Diego. They gave back to their community through countless organizations and will continue to do so through the George S. Harbaugh and Betty L. Harbaugh Foundation.

During his lifetime, George had a passion for traditional Dixieland jazz and over the years played drums in several area bands. During the 1990s, he was very active in America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society serving on the AFCDJS Board of Directors. Then, in 1996, he established the annual AFCDJS Traditional Adult Jazz Camp which has been held each year since. In 2004, George shipped his drums to San Antonio, Texas, where jazz camp alum John Bradshaw had organized a week of jams, gigs and parades for numerous jazz camp alumni. They even played a couple of tunes at The Landing on the Riverwalk. Just last year, George enrolled in the SD Jazz Camp drum class and attended while proudly wearing his polo shirt with its logo from the very first camp.

George's generosity and friendship will be missed by his friends, business associates and fellow musicians. AFCDJS sincerely appreciates all he has contributed over the years.



### Jazz Roots on KSDS FM

Jazz Roots is heard on Sunday evening, 8-10 pm, on KSDS FM (88.3 on the dial).

The program features the roots of jazz — ragtime, blues, country music and more.

Jazz Roots is hosted by Lou Curtiss, proprietor of Folk Arts Rare Records and founder of the San Diego Folk Festival and the Adams Avenue Roots Festival.

### Small Band Music Archives

AFCDJS maintains an archive of over 2400 small band music arrangements, which we make available to school and youth bands, community, church, start-up, and professional music groups.

Ask about the Top Thousand most-requested small band music arrangements, on a DVD disc.

Contact Howie Nielson at [aarchivist@sbcglobal.net](mailto:aarchivist@sbcglobal.net), or go to [www.smallbandmusic.org](http://www.smallbandmusic.org).

## Jazz Alive . . .

Continued from page 2

### NEW ORLEANS JAZZ CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

3rd Sunday, 1pm, Westminster Lanes,  
6471 Westminster Ave., Westminster

### SOUTH BAY N. ORLEANS JAZZ CLUB

2nd Sunday, 12:30-5pm, Knights of  
Columbus Hall, 214 Avenue I, Redondo  
Beach. (310) 374-3174

### SO CAL HOT JAZZ SOCIETY

1st Sunday, American Legion Post 335,  
Southgate. (323) 566-9128. 1pm

### SIMI VALLEY JAZZ CLUB

2nd Sunday, 1-5pm, Simi Valley Senior  
Center, 3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.

### GOLDEN EMPIRE HOT JAZZ SOC.

1st Sunday; 1-5 pm, Kern City Town  
Hall, 1003 Pebble Beach Dr., Bakersfield

### WEST COAST TRAD JASS CLUB

The Untouchables – host band, 1st  
Sunday Every Month 1-5pm

The Saloon at Piper's Winery, 6500  
Casitas Pass Road, Ventura - 805-684-6494  
<http://www.westcoasttradjass.com>,  
[untouchablehotjass@gmail.com](mailto:untouchablehotjass@gmail.com)

### DECATUR, IL

38th Central Illinois Jazz Festival, Feb  
1-3. (217) 546-6091. [www.juvaejazz.com](http://www.juvaejazz.com)

### FRESNO, CA

Sounds of Mardi Gras, Feb. 7-10. (559)  
292-3999. [www.fresnodixie.com](http://www.fresnodixie.com)

### DEL MAR, CA

2013 San Diego Jazz Party, Feb. 22-24,  
(858) 453-0846, [www.sdjip.org](http://www.sdjip.org)

### SEASIDE, OR

30th Annual Seaside Jazz Festival, Feb.  
22-24, [www.jazzseaside.com](http://www.jazzseaside.com). (866) 345-  
6257

### MONTEREY, CA

33rd Annual Dixieland Monterey Jazz  
Bash by the Bay, Mar. 1-3. (888) 349-  
6879, [www.dixieland-monterey.com](http://www.dixieland-monterey.com)

### RACINE, WI

24th Tribute to Bix Beiderbecke, Mar. 7-  
10. (847) 996-0246, [www.bixfest.com](http://www.bixfest.com)

### NORTH BEND, OR

Clambake Jazz Festival, Mar. 8-10. (541)  
888-4386. [www.clambakejazz.org](http://www.clambakejazz.org)

### EUREKA, CA

23rd Annual Redwood Coast Jazz Festival,  
March 21-24. [www.redwoodjazz.org](http://www.redwoodjazz.org), (707)  
445-3378

### THREE RIVERS, CA

40th Annual Jazz Affair, Apr. 12-14.  
(559) 561-4549. [www.jazzaffair.info](http://www.jazzaffair.info)

## Monthly Jazz Concerts

Sponsored by America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society  
Third Sunday of each month except November and December

Feb. 17 – South Bay Jazz Ramblers

March 17 – Royale Garden Dixieland

April 21 – Revelation Jazz Band

### Lafayette Hotel & Suites

Mississippi Room • 2223 El Cajon Blvd. • San Diego

All Programs: 1-4pm • Admission-\$15 • Members-\$10 • Under 30 (with photo ID)-\$5

PLEASE SUPPORT LIVE TRADITIONAL JAZZ!

ATTEND OUR MONTHLY CONCERT/DANCES!

Check the AFCDJS website for the latest information at

[www.sdjazzfest.org](http://www.sdjazzfest.org).

## Many Thanks to All Our Volunteers

The San Diego Jazz Fest 2012 turned out to be another great Thanksgiving Holiday weekend.

We celebrate all our wonderful volunteers again this year for helping to make the 33rd annual event a tremendous success!

From Cabaret Managers and Band Hostesses to door monitors and sign carriers, you were there to ensure the enjoyment of all in attendance. All volunteers, from the one-shifters to those of you who served for all 5 days, Hooray! We appreciate your willingness to serve and hope you will return for our 34th Annual San Diego

Jazz Fest — Thanksgiving weekend 2013.

Come and share the fun times with your friends and join in the excitement of the upbeat music and entertainment we all enjoy at this annual event.

Bernie Bishop was a Super Hero this year, assisting as back-up in any position we needed someone On The Spot! Many thanks, Bernie, you were a life saver. A 90-year-old wonder.

We'd like to thank all volunteers who brought snacks to share in the volunteer room with your fellow volunteers. They were very truly appreciated by all volunteers.

Dewey Williams' continued assistance in the volunteer room as well as filling in as Cabaret Manager and getting that important morning coffee started!

Thank you all, for jobs well done!

### **HELP WANTED!**

Your Society has an immediate need for a volunteer to help with advertising. Time required is 2-5 hours per week. Please contact Myrna Goodwin by email at [goodwinhawkins@cox.net](mailto:goodwinhawkins@cox.net) or phone at (619) 992-3787.

### PENNSACOLA, FL

30th Annual Pensacola JazzFest, Apr. 1-7. (850) 433-8382, [www.jazzpensacola.com](http://www.jazzpensacola.com)

### SACRAMENTO, CA

40th Annual Sacramento Jazz Jubilee,  
May 24-27. (916) 372-5277 x10  
[www.sacjazz.com](http://www.sacjazz.com)



Super volunteer Bernie Bishop

# 34<sup>th</sup> Annual San Diego Jazz Fest

Nov 27-Dec 1, 2013



Brady McKay

For hotel reservations contact  
Town & Country Resort and  
Convention Center, 500 Hotel Circle  
North, San Diego 92110  
800-772-8527 or 619-291-7131  
Rates start at \$105/night



## INVITED BANDS & GUEST ARTISTS\*

Bob Schulz's Frisco Jazz Band  
Original Wildcat Jazz Band  
High Sierra Jazz Band  
Buck Creek Jazz Band  
Carl Sonny Leyland Trio  
Yerba Buena Stompers  
Dave Bennett Quartet  
Cornet Chop Suey  
Stephanie Trick  
Paolo Alderighi  
Katie Cavera  
Bob Draga  
Brady McKay  
Jason Wanner  
Chloe Feoranzo  
Titanic Jazz Band  
Reynolds Brothers  
Ray Skjelbred's Cubs  
Euphoria Brass Band  
High Society Jazz Band  
Night Blooming Jazzmen  
Grand Dominion Jazz Band  
Heliotrope Ragtime Orchestra  
Mission Bay HS Preservationists  
Sue Palmer and her Motel Swing  
Dave Bennett and his Memphis Boys  
Glenn Crytzer and his Syncopators  
Stompy Jones

**FESTIVAL  
HOURS**  
Wed 7-11pm  
Thurs 7-11pm  
Fri 10am-11pm  
Sat 9am-11pm  
Sun 8am-5pm

\* Subject to change



### BADGE REGISTRATION

AFCDJS P.O. BOX 880387, SAN DIEGO, CA 92168-0387

[www.SDjazzfest.org](http://www.SDjazzfest.org)

Email: [jazzinfo@dixielandjazzfestival.org](mailto:jazzinfo@dixielandjazzfestival.org) Phone: 619-297-5277

5-Day Badges (Wed – Sun) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$105 ea. Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

4-Day Badges (Thur – Sun) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$100 ea. Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

3-Day Badges (Fri – Sun) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$95 ea. Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Society Membership:  Single \$20  Couple \$30

Amount of check or money order: TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\$10 off Multi-day badges if purchased by Oct 15, 2013 with T&C  
Reservation. **DAILY BADGES AVAILABLE AT THE FESTIVAL**

### 2013 FESTIVAL SPONSORSHIPS

Take an active role in supporting the festival!  
Consider sponsoring a Room, Band or Guest Artist.

*Example sponsorship plan:*

\$250 for your favorite Band or Guest Artist includes:

- One All-Events Badge and Sponsor Ribbon
- Reserved Seating in all Venues & Free Parking
- Sponsors' Reception Invitation
- Band Hospitality Room access
- Web & Program recognition
- One-Year AFCJDS Membership

► Sponsor by Oct 31, 2013 to insure Program listing ◀

Email or call Jim McNaughton to arrange a sponsorship  
plan or to obtain additional info:

[mmcnaughton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mmcnaughton@sbcglobal.net) / 619-357-6086

# 2012 Festival Highlights



# Continuing Society Concert Series Brings Great Jazz in 2013

## S. Bay Jazz Ramblers Feb. 17

The South Bay Jazz Ramblers have appeared at the San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival and as part of the AFCDJS monthly concert series. The band, which evolved from AFCDJS' Adult Traditional Jazz Camp and the monthly jazz workshops, plays a variety of Dixieland standards and lesser-known material. You can see the band the 1st Monday of each month at the Fuddrucker's in Grossmont Center. Led by cornetist Wally Winters, the Ramblers include Dave Chamberlain, trombone; Bob McKewen, reeds; Mike Whitehead, piano; Jim Goodwin, banjo and guitar; Tom Bishop, bass; Fred Allee, drums. All hope that 101-year-old Mary Barton can be there, too.

## Royale Garden Dixie Mar. 17

The Royale Garden Dixieland Band debuted in 1997 at the New Orleans Jazz Club of Southern California and are one of the "house bands" of the Society for the Preservation of Dixieland Jazz. Since its debut, the group has played all over Southern California for parties, grand openings, concerts in the park, at the jazz clubs in the traditional jazz style of the early 20th century. You are always

guaranteed a fun time. Line-up includes Alan Shelton, trumpet/leader; Brooks Coleman, reeds; Bob Waner, trombone; Paul Goldman, drums; John Nickel, bass; and Frank Greco, piano.

## Revelation Jazz Band Apr. 21

The Revelation Jazz Band has a distinctive New Orleans sound with an English flavor that swings with jazz excitement. The house band for the New Orleans Jazz Club of Southern California, the band also plays regularly at El Patio Restaurant in Anaheim. In the past RJB has played at the San Clemente "Jazz Festival by the Sea" and had four popular jazz cruises to Baja. Current personnel

## 2014 Adult Trad Jazz Camp

The 2014 San Diego Adult Traditional Jazz Camp is set for January 16-19, 2014, at the Lafayette Hotel, 2223 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego. Start making your plans to attend. More information will be available soon on our website and in the *Jazz Rambler*.

includes NOJCSC President John Hockins, trumpet; Phil Andreen, trombone; Wayne Schmus, reeds; Jim Gordon, piano; Ray Siegele, banjo/guitar; Bill Breau, guitar; John Nickel, bass; and Cary Marshall, drums.



*Revelation Jazz Band*



*Royale Garden Dixieland Band*



*South Bay Jazz Ramblers*

## Returning Favorites . . .

*Continued from front page*

program which will be announced in the next issue of the *Jazz Rambler*).

But wait; there's more! In addition, these great bands and guest artists are returning in 2013 to play the 34th Annual San Diego Jazz Fest:

- **Cornet Chop Suey**
- **Stephanie Trick**
- **Dave Bennett Quartet** (and the **Memphis Boys**)
- **Carl Sonny Leyland**
- **Katie Cavera**
- **Sue Palmer and her Motel Swing Orchestra**
- **Chloe Feoranzo**
- **High Society Jazz Band**
- **Reynolds Brothers**

Without a doubt, this is one of the most impressive lineups in the history of the San Diego Jazz Fest! The cross-section of artists presents something for everyone, with an emphasis on Traditional Jazz. Please join us Nov. 27 - Dec. 1 at the Town & Country Resort & Convention Center, located in San Diego's Hotel Circle.

We encourage you to order your badges early, to make your hotel reservations and to consider sponsoring a band, musician or venue.

For more information, see the Festival ad on page 5. Also, be sure to check our website, [www.sdjazzfest.org](http://www.sdjazzfest.org), for updated information regarding the San Diego Jazz Fest, our Adult Jazz Camp, Monthly Concerts, Dixieland Workshops and other AFCDJS activities!



*Bob Schulz returns to San Diego Fest*

## AFCDJS — Preserve, Perpetuate and Provide

Our Society states that our goal is to preserve and perpetuate traditional jazz. Having just completed the San Diego Jazz Fest, I think we should add **provide** to our goal. Preserve, perpetuate and provide is what our Society does. We **provide** an adult Jazz Camp, an opportunity to play and learn jazz at the musician's hall. We work with young people in youth bands, help with instruments and arrangements and **provide** scholarships to youth jazz camps. And of course we **provide** music opportunities to over 6,000 trad jazz fans at our annual Festival and our monthly concerts.

Having served as sponsorship and appeals chairman for a year and a half, I had the opportunity to talk with countless jazz fans who have attended our Festivals. Often heard comments: "Great live bands, outstanding musicians, something for everybody, upbeat music, great venues and dance floors, a fun atmosphere, where else can you enjoy 25 live bands in a few days."

How do we do it? It is no secret. We have a large and active society. We reach out to people everywhere for volunteers, sponsors and generous fans who buy tickets and make donations. Without these people we wouldn't be able to **provide** this successful music Festival which all of us enjoy. So thank you all for helping us meet our goals.

At 7:30am on the Monday after the Festival, I got the first email requesting to be a sponsor for the 2013 Festival. We are off to a good start. Make one of your New Year's resolutions becoming a sponsor and enjoy the Festival with the benefits that sponsorship brings:

- 5-Day All-Events Badges and Sponsor Ribbons
- Invitation to Sponsors' Reception
- Reserved Seating in all Venues
- Web and Program Listing
- One-year AFCDJS Membership
- Free Parking at the Town & Country

Please contact me, Jim McNaughton at [mmcnaughton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mmcnaughton@sbcglobal.net) or 619-435-0806.

### WWW Update

The AFCDJS Website is being updated and upgraded. Basic information about the society is still available but the details for the 2013 Festival will be posted later in February.

## Daredevil . . .

*Continued from back page*

them as "cross-rhythms." He added that Steve Brown was "The one everybody listened to... the best, and we all knew it."

Though string bass had been audible on other jazz records (such as Jelly Roll Morton's 1926 Red Hot Peppers with John Lindsay) "My Pretty Girl" was a landmark recording for the instrument. New Orleans bassist Pops Foster recalled, "When that record came out, we all put our tubas back in the closet!" Jazz bands and dance orchestras did not completely do away with the tuba until the mid-1930s, but bassists such as Foster, Bill Johnson, Wellman Braud and Al Morgan were heard more prominently after the record was released. On Goldkette's recording of "Clementine (From New Orleans)" Brown teamed with guitarist Eddie Lang, playing a smoother, lighter sound that prefigured Swing Era rhythm sections.

When Bix Beiderbecke and Frank Trumbauer left Jean Goldkette to join Paul Whiteman's Orchestra, "Steve" went with them. While in the Whiteman entourage, his contributions to recordings such as "Changes," "Lonely Melody" and particularly "From Monday On" are inestimable. However, his stay with Whiteman was short and he soon returned to Goldkette.

From the late '20s until the 1940s Brown played with groups in Kansas City and Detroit, where he finally settled. One of the bands he played with in Detroit was the "Dixie Five" and in 1950 he re-created his famous slapped "cross-rhythms" on the recording of "My Pretty Girl." Steve Brown passed away in Detroit on Sept. 15, 1965, knowing that he helped release bassists from Pops Foster to Milt Hinton to Charles Mingus from the role of bowing a metronomic two-beat in a rhythm section. New Orleans bassist Wellman Braud, whose distinguished career included stints with Duke Ellington, Sidney Bechet and Kid Ory, called Steve Brown "The Greatest of All Bass Players." Braud told historian/writer/record producer Bill Russell that he used "The beat that Steve Brown showed me" on Ory's record of "There'll Be Some Changes Made." Indeed, there are the slaps, the cross rhythms and the same kind of fearless bridge-jumping syncopations that earned Theodore Brown the nickname of an earlier bridge jumper!



**San Diego Unified School District  
Instrumental Honor Concerts  
Winter/Spring 2013**

America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society is a major sponsor of these concerts. There is no charge to the public, so we hope you will attend these events. Support music education in our schools. (Schedule update)

**Partnership Honor Choir  
Saturday, March 2, 7pm**

Brown Chapel, Point Loma Nazarene  
Elementary, Middle and High School  
Honor Choirs  
*San Diego Unified, County Office of  
Education  
California Association for Music  
Education*  
~~~~~

**High School Instrumental
Honor Concert**

Saturday, March 9, 7pm
Copley Symphony Hall, 7th & B
Honor Orchestra, Honor Band
~~~~~

**Elementary Instrumental  
Honor Concert**

**Thursday, March 21, 7pm**  
Brown Chapel, Point Loma Nazarene  
Honor Orchestra, Honor Band  
~~~~~

**Middle School Instrumental
Honor Concert**

Saturday, March 23, 7pm
Brown Chapel, Point Loma Nazarene
Honor Orchestra, Honor Band

For further information: Visual &
Performing Arts Department (VAPA)
Karen Childress-Evans, Director (858)
539-5349; Mark Nicholson, Instru-
mental Music Specialist (858) 539-5351

Survey Drawing Results

America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society extends a sincere "Thank you" to all guests at the 2012 Festival who completed our Festival Survey. Your opinions are sincerely appreciated. All who turned in completed cards were included in our drawing. First prize, a new Goodtime Tenor Banjo from Deering Banjo, was won by Smokey Schlaffer of Dunedin, FL. However, Smokey elected to receive two badges to the 2013 SD Jazz Fest instead. Second prize, two 5-Day All Events Badges for the 2013 Festival, were won by Don Morrison from Kensington, CA. A gift basket of 10 CDs from the 2012 Festival bands was won by Wiley White of Sacramento. All winners will also receive a one year membership to AFCDJS.

Dixie Express — A Fine Local Band that Deserves Your Attention



By Jim McNaughton

The San Diego Jazz Fest happens once a year. If you live in San Diego where do you go to hear good trad jazz the rest of the year? There are six or more excellent bands in the area. One of those bands, Dixie Express, is led by John Contreras.

John joined his father on the band stand at an early age. He played in dance bands and marching bands. He has been a member of numerous local jazz bands, Old Town Jazz Band and Nice and Easy Jazz Band to name two. He has been active in our Society to provide youth jazz camp scholarships like the ones that he attended in his high school years in Arizona. John has also taken part in planning as well as attending the Society's adult jazz camps. He was a former executive at UCSD and a former US Navy Chief. He is now happily retired and lives in Lakeside. John Contreras, in addition

Jazz on Radio/Online

Doug Best Swings: 7-11am every Sat. '30s thru '50s big band with a touch of New Orleans Jazz. Call 760.736.8375 or 619.540.5715 for requests or feedback.

Sharon's Show by Sharon Prince 11am-1pm every Sat. *All types and eras of music usually with a theme or focusing on one particular artist or composer.* Contact: 619.997.4045 or prince.sharon@att.net for requests or feedback

Both shows are available at AM 1320 radio, www.palomar.edu/kksm internet and Cox Cable 957.

to being the leader, is the clarinetist in the band and one of the featured vocalists. This band provides easy listening and good dance music.

The musicians are well known in the area. They all perform in other local bands. Lee Fugal, trombone and vocals, has played in the pit band of the The Golden Horseshow Review in Disneyland and The Salt Lake Goodtime Band. Phil Kirk, trumpet, formed the Professor Plum Band — one of the most popular jazz bands on the West coast. He is currently co-leader of the Red Pepper Jazz Band. Ken Dillard, piano, plays for Red Pepper and several banjo bands and combos. He subs with Red Pepper and many other bands.

Jim Goodwin, banjo and guitar, stays busy playing with the South Bay Jazz Ramblers, San Diego Banjo Band and bands that play swing and standards. Tim Smith, string bass, plays in Finest City Jazz Band and the Senior Moment Jazz Quartet as well as a number of big bands. Kenny Powell, drums, plays in Uptown Rhythm Makers as well as numerous other groups.

Dixie Express appears countless times and at many different venues through out the year. You can see them at Lawrence Welk, San Diego summer concerts in the park, and almost weekly at the Grossmont Fuddruckers where they have appeared for the past 12 years. See the band schedules in the *Jazz Rambler* for up to date information.

On the Festival Trail — San Diego

By Don Jones
 Editor, American Rag

Although Cathie and I have attended the San Diego Jazz Festival many times, this year I took the extra time to really survey the facilities of the Town & Country Resort and Convention Center.

When we arrived mid-morning on Friday, Jeff Bishop from Racy's Jazz Wearables met us at the entrance to retrieve the four boxes of our November Rags we brought with us for jazz fans to read while listening to the music.

Cathie went in with Jeff while I drove off to find parking at the farthest corner of the vast parking area. My walk back toward the main building was interrupted when what appeared to be the entrance to a very tall building (the Royal Palm Tower) led through to one of the three swimming pool areas, which revealed expansive, beautifully-manicured plants and floral bushes. After winding thru the umbrella-covered tables into a restaurant, the exit led me to an open area which ultimately took me to the Lion Fountain Court. From there into the main building, the Atlas Foyer, and its seven venues all on one level where I found Jeff, Beverly Bishop and Cathie.

I hope you have gotten the impression that this facility is HUGE! It has the capacity to house, and entertain a HUGE CROWD, which was exactly what I found throughout our stay. Hal Smith, the Festival's Artistic Director, told me the Wednesday attendance was the biggest Wednesday in the history of the Festival. He attributed this to a noticeable increase in young Swing Dancers on Wednesday and other days.

Rather than tell you the bands we personally heard, let me just tell you the program included performances by two bands on Wednesday; seven performances by five bands on Thursday; 64 band/musician performances on Friday; 71 band/ musician performances on Saturday; and finally 39 band/musician performances on Sunday. As the cover of the beautiful full-color, slick covered program announced—Trad Jazz, Swing, Boogie Woogie, Dixieland, Stride—there was something for everyone's musical taste.

While speaking with Paul Daspit, Executive Director of the Festival and of the AFCDJS (America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society), the Festival's sponsoring organization, to congratulate him on the San Diego Jazz Fest's apparent successes, he gave full credit

were he felt it was due when he said, "I have to stand on the shoulders of a lot of supporters to accomplish what you have seen here." By that he was referring to the 29 Festival Staff Volunteers who serve on 24 sub-committees it takes to stage this Festival, and over 200 Festival volunteers as well as people like Alan Adams and other past Festival directors who have paved the way for this wonderful annual event. These don't include Band Sponsors who financially support individual bands at the rate of three per band evidenced on posters placed for audience viewing during each set, and the volunteers who work as venue monitors.

I will close this upbeat report with this reminder:

There are only nine festivals of this kind left in California: they are Eureka, Sacramento (2), Fresno, Three Rivers, Mammoth Lakes, Monterey, Pismo Beach, and San Diego, and one Jazz Party held in Del Mar. If you want this music and these festivals to be viable into the future, your continued attendance and financial support over and above purchasing badges is imperative for their future survival and that of the music we all love so profoundly!

American Rag Trial Subscription Offer

Don Jones, publisher of the *American Rag* is offering a two-month "mini-trial-subscription" to all new AFCDJS members. Simply fill out the form below, have it signed by an AFCDJS officer at one of our monthly concerts, then send the completed form to the *American Rag*. You will enjoy two months' worth of reporting on the most important events in the world of Traditional Jazz and Ragtime.

AFCDJS PRESENTS
 FREE 2013

DIXIE WORKSHOPS
 (2nd Thurs. of month, 7-9 pm)

Feb. 21* • March 14 • April 11
 May 9 • June 13 • July 11
 Aug. 8 • Sept. 12 • Oct. 10
 Nov. 14 • Dec. dark

*Special Date

AFCDJS-sponsored workshops are held the second Thursday of every month (except December) from 7 to 9pm at the San Diego Musicians Hall, 1717 Morena Blvd., San Diego.

Requirement:

Desire to play Dixieland Jazz!

Furnished:

Drums, piano and a core group of instructors.

ALL LEVELS OF
 TALENT WELCOME!

(619) 297-JASS (5277)

www.SDjazzfest.org

The personnel of many of the local Bands that have appeared at our Festivals have been participants in the AFCDJS free Jazz Workshops.



News You Can Use About Traditional Jazz and Ragtime
One Year: \$26U.S. -:- Canadian \$39U.S.* -:- Elsewhere \$99U.S.*
Two Years: \$48U.S. -:- Canadian \$74U.S.* -:- Elsewhere \$194U.S.*

(* Includes Airmail Delivery)

Make check payable to: **The American Rag**
 20137 Skyline Ranch Dr., Apple Valley, CA 92308-5035
 Phone/Fax: 760-247-5145

Name _____

Signature X _____

(Periodical Postal Regulations require Mailers to maintain a signed card from every subscriber.)

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Phone _____ Zip + 4 _____

America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society

Welcome — New and Renewal Members

Oct.- Nov. - Dec. 2012

\$100 DAWN CLUB

Jerome A. Acevedo
David & Bonnie Austin
Dick & Karen Lee Erhardt
Sharon Konz

~~~~~

Kenneth Abrahams  
James Allen  
Lasha Allen  
Eleonora Amorim  
Karen Anderson  
Phil Andreen  
Janet Assi  
John & Janet Bauer  
Rollin W. Baugh  
Alan & Carol Bernstein  
Nicki Biggs  
Ron Blanding  
Jerome L. Bourey  
Jeanne Bowers  
Nondis Bown  
Carol A. Boynton  
Bill & Joan Breher  
Barbara W. Briggs  
Mark Brodie  
Howard & Sue Busby  
Ed & Shirley Callan  
Linda Canon  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Carasik  
Lawrence Carleton  
Jerry Carter  
Janed Guymon Casady  
Vaughn Chilcote  
Dr. & Mrs. Basil Clyman  
Brooks P. Coleman  
Lois Day  
Nancy Dillon  
Serge Di Novo  
Edward & Doris Duling

Edward & Beverly Eanes  
Hoyt Ecker  
John C. Edwards  
Ed & Frances Ehrhart  
Jack Ekstrom  
John (Jack) Eldridge Jr.  
Samantha M. Ellis  
Ronald & Maralee Ellison  
Joseph & Carol Endisch  
Richard Ensling  
Lief & Lorraine Etkin  
Jim & Ingrid Fiedler  
George Fiedler  
Julie Fishelson  
Corinne Fleming  
Jack & Nancy Fletcher  
Connor T. Ford  
Debbie Fox  
Jeff Frank  
David M. & Marcia D. Gill  
Peter Glaser  
Paul Goldman  
John Granlee  
Fran Gray  
Tom & Nancy Green  
Hal Groody  
Stu Gross  
James W. Hamburg  
Richard & Jean Hennessy  
Joanne Heriot  
Warren Herzog  
Mary Hobson  
Harry Hodges  
Dennis E. Holland  
Arvin Hollingshead  
Van M. Housholder  
Chuck Hukari  
Gary & Joyce Imm  
Diann Jacoby  
Bernard Jaffe

Joe & Jane Jensen  
Don Johnson  
Gwendonna Johnson  
Perry Jones  
William Jones  
Constance Leigh Joyner  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Kaiser  
Stephen F. Kasbeer  
Richard Katz  
Hugh Ross Kaye  
Leonard & Kathleen Kellogg  
Tom & Kathie King  
Edwin & Julie Krummenacher  
Larry E. Krymer  
Regent Laporte  
Rachel & Jerry Levens  
Tom & Nannette Loeb  
Bobbi Lona  
Ralph Longway  
Norm Ludington  
James Madero  
Marian Maguire  
Susan Maloney  
Paul & Sheila Marsh  
Carol Masterson  
Don & Janet Mathews  
Bob & Mary McCleary  
Richard A. McFarland  
Richard & Florence McNabb  
Elinor Merl  
Gerard & Marilyn Metzger  
Cam Miller  
Alan Mindell  
Annie Mintle  
Sandra J. Morgan  
Richard W. Morris  
Robert & Edith Mott  
Jan Muller  
Connie Muther  
Hal & Georgia Myers

Nick & Bonnie Nichols  
Irena Nikolova  
Mary L. Nuffer  
Jack O'Lexey  
Ron & Bobbie Olsen  
Kurt & Sharon Olsen  
Elsa Olson  
Johnny & GERALYN Orcuit  
Rodney D. Orth  
Geri Owings  
John & Sandra Peters  
Warren & Carrie Phillips  
Joe Pribilo  
Alice L. Province  
Lenora Rathbone  
William Ray  
Jay & Carole Rice  
Norman & Maggie Richardson  
Richard & Donna Ring  
Joe Rossetti  
Richard & Ann Ruppert  
Bob & Janine Ryder  
Jerome Sattler  
Robert J. Schaefer  
Nikki Schweitzer  
Josef & Bonnie Sedivec  
Joseph Settepani  
Bobbie Shaver  
Conrad Skimina  
Clancy & Patt Sloan  
Janet L. Smith  
Larry Smith  
Timothy & Alice Smith, Jr.  
Col. Robert & Hazel Smothers  
Bob Snyder  
Janet Spiro  
Marilyn J. Stalker  
Rosalie Stewart  
Edwin Szymanski  
Carl A. Tatina  
Robert & Betty Taylor  
Mary Thom  
Vernon & Denise Thomas  
Fred & Eleanor Tietz  
Mary Toomey  
Mike Truman  
Valerie J. Van Dalsen  
Mark Van Roode  
Jean Vanstone  
John E. Vondracek  
Laura Waest  
Christiana "Red" Wagner  
Roy Wakefield  
Mike Walbridge  
Barry & Julie Walson  
Bob Waner  
Dusty Ward  
Lorraine K. Webb  
Jim & Jeanine Weddell  
Michael Whitehead  
Roland & Loreen Wilhelmy  
Dick & Kathy Williams  
Maureen Wilson  
Barry Withers  
Andrew & Kathleen Wittenborn  
Sylvia Wong  
Ed Wormald  
Carl Wright  
Madeleine Wright  
Dr. David & Natalie Yates  
Eric Zsutty

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL /SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Please check the applicable boxes and mail to:

AMERICA'S FINEST CITY DIXIELAND JAZZ SOCIETY

P.O. Box 880387 • San Diego, CA 92168-0387 • Phone: (619) 297-5277

NEW  RENEWAL

- Enclosed is  \$20.00 for a single membership (includes *Jazz Rambler*)  
 \$30.00 for a couple membership (includes *Jazz Rambler*)  
 \$15.00 for annual subscription / *Jazz Rambler* only  
 \$20.00 — foreign

## SUPPORT THE EDUCATION FUND

- \$1,000 Cotton Club  \$250 Storyville Club  \$100 Dawn Club  
 Please contact me regarding volunteer work for the AFC Dixieland Jazz Society

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE/EVES \_\_\_\_\_ DAYS \_\_\_\_\_

## *They Called it Jazz* Steve Brown — Daredevil of the String Bass

*(This is one more in a series of biographies of great traditional jazz musicians. The series started with the March/April 1991 issue and was developed by Rambler founding publisher and Board Member, the late Len Levine.)*

By Hal Smith  
AFCDJS Artistic Director

On July 23, 1886, a New York City gambler named Steve Brodie jumped off the Brooklyn Bridge to win a bet. Some historians contend that Brodie threw a dummy from the bridge, and swam to shore from a safe location. But many witnesses — including the *New York Times*, believed that he actually made the dive. The resulting publicity enabled Steve Brodie to own a successful saloon, and to become an actor in vaudeville. In American slang, “a Brodie” could mean committing suicide by jumping off a bridge, or taking a dive in a prizefight. “Steve Brodie” was also a nickname given to daredevils in many different fields.

A little over four years after Brodie’s jump, Theodore Brown was born in New Orleans. He would become one of the premier bassists in Jazz and would also acquire the nickname “Steve” to acknowledge his exciting and unorthodox playing.

Theodore’s older brother Tom was a well-established trombonist in New Orleans, when he received an offer from vaudeville dancer Joe Frisco to bring a band to Chicago. “Tom Brown’s Band From Dixieland” debuted in Chicago in May, 1915 — preceding the Original Dixieland Jass Band’s trip to the Windy City by almost a year.

Despite brother Tom’s success in



Chicago (and later in New York City), Theodore did not migrate north until 1920. In Chicago he co-led a dance band with Tom, then joined the New Orleans Rhythm Kings. The NORK (also known as the Friars’ Society Orchestra) performed at the Friars’ Inn with New Orleans expatriates and Midwesterners in the personnel.

The NORK made a number of recordings for Gennett, including one of the first racially-mixed sessions, with the formidable Jelly Roll Morton on piano! The young cornetist Bix Beiderbecke sat in frequently with the band and the NORK records were a major influence on young Chicago musicians like Jimmy and Dick McPartland, Frank Teschemacher, Bud Freeman and Eddie Condon. Though Brown played string bass on some of the recordings, the instrument is not as audible as his tuba due to the acoustic

limitations of early-’20s recording methods.

When the engagement at the Friars’ Inn ended, the Rhythm Kings scattered. Some returned to New Orleans; others stayed in Chicago to work with a variety of bands. Brown joined a terrific dance band — the Midway Gardens Orchestra — and then the Jean Goldkette Orchestra. As recording techniques improved, it became easier to hear his wonderful bass sound. By 1926, the Goldkette Orchestra was established as one of the hottest dance bands in America. On Oct. 13 of that year, they engaged in a “battle of the bands” with Fletcher Henderson’s Orchestra at the Roseland Ballroom in New York City. At the time, Henderson’s band was considered to be *the* hottest dance band. But the Hendersonians were soundly defeated by the Goldkette ensemble’s red hot performance.

Henderson’s cornetist Rex Stewart recalled, “We simply could not compete... their rhythm too strong... what with Steve Brown slapping the hell out of that bass.” Brown had now progressed from being called “Red” (for his red hair) to “Steve” — in celebration of his unrestrained, daring approach to the instrument. One of the numbers that helped to vanquish Henderson’s musicians was “My Pretty Girl” which featured Brown. The Goldkette Orchestra recorded it on Feb. 1, 1927. Brown can be heard bowing in 2/4 on the opening ensemble, but when he starts slapping on the arranged “shout” chorus, the sound is every bit as thrilling to hear today as it was over 80 years ago! The rhythmic patterns Brown played are difficult to describe, though another giant of the bass, Milt Hinton, described

*continued on page 8*